

.....ComprehensivePlan
for the National Capital

Federal Elements

The Plan in Action

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

.....ComprehensivePlan
for the National Capital



Federal Elements

The Plan in Action

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.....ComprehensivePlan
for the National Capital

Federal Elements

The Plan in Action

The *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements* guides growth and development of federal activities in the National Capital Region. The Comprehensive Plan also drives the Commission's mission and work program, and forms the basis for the decisions it makes on projects and plans it reviews. Implementing the policies outlined in the Federal Elements is an important feature of the Comprehensive Plan revision.

The Action Plan Matrix that accompanies the Comprehensive Plan contains specific projects to advance the Commission's vision, and to set in motion the necessary steps to activate the plan's goals and policies. The projects advance the policies in the Comprehensive Plan; the objectives of the Commission's Strategic Plan and annual work program; and the recommendations from NCPC's past planning initiatives such as the *Legacy Plan*. The Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP) also plays a prominent role in the Action Plan as the Commission encourages federal agencies to use the Comprehensive Plan as a policy guide in preparing their submissions to the FCIP.

The projects in the Action Plan Matrix include a reference to the relevant plan elements, provide a brief description, outline accompanying implementation strategies, identify action partners, and offer a timeframe. While the project itself may be long-term, the timeframe reflects the short- or long-term nature of the project's implementation strategies. Short-term strategies are usually achievable within five years. Long-range strategies may also be addressed within five years, but are typically of a scope that require five to twenty years or more. It is important to note that not all projects are currently funded. The Action Plan Matrix will be evaluated periodically to update projects as they progress and to add new projects as they are identified and developed to continue fulfilling the Comprehensive Plan's vision and goals.

The Commission is committed to implementing the vision and goals of the Comprehensive Plan in coordination with many federal and non-federal stakeholders in the region. In addition to partnering with other federal and non-federal government agencies and private organizations, the Commission advances Comprehensive Plan goals and policies through its regulatory responsibilities and day-to-day activities, such as:

- Reviewing development plans and proposals to ensure conformance with the highest standards of planning and urban design, and consistency with the symbolic role and function of the nation's capital.
- Developing specialized plans for the National Capital Region. Current examples of such plans include the *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan* and the *South Capitol Street Urban Design Study*. Future plans include an Urban Design Manual and Tool Kit, which will provide a physical, urban design framework to guide federal growth and planning in the region.
- Recommending projects in the Federal Capital Improvements Program—a six-year program of public works projects for the federal government.
- Incorporating special initiatives in its annual performance plan.

The projects in the Action Plan Matrix are organized according to a primary theme (although multiple themes may apply), which are outlined in the Comprehensive Plan's guiding principles. These themes are also closely tied to the goals of the Commission's Strategic Plan, which describes the Commission's mission, vision, and values. The relevant Strategic Plan goals include.

- Preserve and enhance the unique beauty and image of the national capital and ensure its planned development.

- Ensure that the location and design of all federal buildings in the National Capital Region promote the effective functioning of the federal establishment, establish an efficient and pleasant work environment for federal employees, and adhere to the highest architectural, planning, and urban design standards.
- Design and encourage transit-oriented development and transportation systems that will reduce congestion and pollution and improve movement to and through the National Capital Region.
- Protect and enhance historic and natural resources while accommodating change in the nation's capital.

Image of the National Capital Region

The Commission has been a strong advocate in maintaining the nation's capital and region as one of the most beautiful capitals in the world. The symbolism and image that Washington conveys are immediately recognizable and are unequaled. The Commission's work on the *Legacy Plan*, the *Memorials and Museums Master Plan*, the *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan*, and the *South Capitol Street Urban Design Study* reflect its commitment to preserving and enhancing the nation's capital. The recommendations outlined in these plans offer workable solutions to protect the city's character while addressing the development and security pressures that are exerted upon it. A number of projects have been identified as part of the Comprehensive Plan's implementation strategy to contend with the issues affecting the image of the region. The Action Plan includes two projects directly related to one key issue—the protection of the National Mall. Updating the Mall master plan and actively promoting and negotiating future memorial sites away from the Mall are two of the Comprehensive Plan's strategies. Another key interest area is addressing visual and physical barriers that convey a "Fortress Washington" to visitors and residents. The implementation of the recommendations from the Commission's *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan* is central to countering this image of Washington and to providing openness while offering security solutions. Additionally, the plans to redevelop South Capitol Street and to implement the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative are intended to transform this important area of the city into a new vibrant corridor befitting the nation's capital.

Operational Efficiency of the Federal Government

A commitment to enhancing the operational efficiency of the federal government is a primary concern of the Comprehensive Plan. A few of the projects identified in the Action Plan are designed to analyze the current conditions of federal activities and the future needs of federal employees, which are paramount to improving efficiency. Projects such as developing and maintaining a database of key federal indicators (including such information as federal demographics), analyzing federal procurement activities, and studying employee commuting patterns will provide a means to better monitor the federal presence and impact in the region. As the major employer, occupier of buildings, and purchaser of goods and services within the region, the federal government is dependent on a strong and economically vibrant region to maintain and enhance its operational efficiency and productivity. Decisions on where federal activities locate—and where activities associated with the federal government (e.g., foreign

missions, visitor amenities) locate—can result in significant efficiencies. Identifying locations in the District and throughout the region to accommodate these activities is an important component in the Comprehensive Plan’s implementation strategy and one where federal and local collaboration to identify mutually desirable locations can benefit both federal and local interests. Projects in the Action Plan call for analyzing the South Capitol Street corridor; accommodating the federal government’s office space needs; identifying sites for foreign missions; and researching potential sites for new visitor centers/kiosks.

Transportation Mobility and Accessibility

Closely linked to federal operational efficiency is the mobility of the federal workforce. Improving mobility provides advantages to federal workers, to the federal government in general and to all who reside in or visit the region. Mobility doesn’t necessarily translate into putting more cars on already overflowing roads. The Commission is committed to working with regional entities toward reducing the transportation gridlock that threatens commuters and travelers to and through the region daily. Promoting alternative modes of transportation and innovative transportation management programs are key components of the Comprehensive Plan. The Action Plan reflects the importance placed on developing a number of multi-pronged solutions to one of the most pressing issues in the National Capital Region. Transit projects include supporting Metrorail capacity improvements, Dulles Corridor rapid transit, and the Downtown Circulator. The plan supports facilitating access to federal facilities through improved biking opportunities as reflected in the projects calling for construction of bicycle paths and lanes on or near federal facilities. The plan also promotes studying the viability of water taxis to move residents as well as visitors to attractions and other places throughout the city and region. Additionally, the Action Plan identifies a project to study the accommodation of tour buses to facilitate visitor needs.

Stewardship of Natural Resources

The region’s beauty is exemplified not only in the stone, marble, and granite found in its manmade structures, but also in the natural beauty evident in its open space and parks, its forests, its waterways, its topography, and its views and vistas. The federal government has been a vigilant steward in the preservation and enhancement of these natural resources. There are also a number of other public and private groups dedicated to preserving and enhancing natural resources in the region. By providing leadership, coordination, and technical ability, as well as partnering with others, NCPC will play a pivotal role in marshalling the resources needed to establish a unified strategy for addressing natural resource issues in the region. A first step in ensuring that these resources are protected, maintained, and enhanced is establishing a program to analyze the current inventory of parks and open spaces in the region and ascertain deficiencies and gaps. Conducting a survey of existing parks and open spaces and analyzing their condition, the Commission and its partners can assess what will be required to protect and maintain the current inventory, determine where new parks and open space are needed to accommodate future generations, and develop innovative solutions to effectively manage and maintain these resources throughout the District and region.

Action Plan Matrix

Image of the National Capital Region

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE	National Mall planning	Update the 1976 master plan of the National Mall, coordinating with NPS' National Mall Landscape Conservation Plan, to consider how the Mall fits with the design framework of the areas adjacent to it and the surrounding urban area.
VISITORS	Memorial and museum sites	For sites identified in the <i>Memorials and Museums Master Plan</i> that are not already in federal ownership, assess the appropriateness of various methods (e.g., purchase, easement, PUD) for assuring the future availability of these sites. For federally owned sites, determine if major action is needed to assure future availability (e.g., relocation of major roadways).
FEDERAL WORKPLACE	<i>National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan</i> (NCUDSP)	Facilitate implementation of the NCUDSP through project and plan review, developing partnerships with other agencies to acquire funding, as well as comprehensive streetscape strategies.

While the projects may be long-term, the timeframe reflects the short- or long-term nature of the projects' implementation strategies. Short-term strategies are usually achievable within five years. Long-range strategies may also be addressed within five years, but are typically of a scope that may require five to twenty years or more. Note: Not all projects are currently funded.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
	NPS, NCPC	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare study of methods, preferred strategies, and priorities, in consultation with affected agencies and private parties. • Use the study to seek any needed funding, or to take action on particular projects as they arise. 	NCPC, NPS, USDOT, DDOT, DCOP	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an NCUDSP Implementation Manual for use by federal agencies. • Conduct an implementation workshop for federal agencies. • Facilitate creation of partnerships among appropriate federal agencies to design and test security elements. • Continue to pursue creation of partnerships among appropriate federal agencies to implement perimeter security through comprehensive streetscape projects. • Continue to pursue funding for perimeter security through comprehensive streetscape projects. • Continue to work with federal agencies throughout design development in the project and plan review process. 	NCPC, FHWA, OMB, GSA, NPS, DDOT and other federal agencies as required by location-specific projects	Short-term

Image of the National Capital Region continued

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT; PRESERVATION AND HISTORIC FEATURES	Monumental axes study	Conduct a viewshed analysis of the monumental core and other key federal areas throughout the region.
PRESERVATION AND HISTORIC FEATURES; PARKS AND OPEN SPACE	Height of Buildings Act interpretation/application	Form joint task force with District of Columbia and federal agencies on interpretation of the Height of Buildings Act and other regulations affecting the horizontal character of the national capital. Work with Arlington County and other local jurisdictions to coordinate building height regulations with the appearance of the national capital.
TRANSPORTATION	Railroad relocation	Study the realignment of the existing railroad that currently travels immediately east and south of the U.S. Capitol, crosses South Capitol Street and bisects the Southwest Federal Center predominately along Virginia and Maryland Avenues.
FEDERAL WORKPLACE; TRANSPORTATION	Improve regional gateways and reinforce the preeminence of the monumental core: transform South Capitol Street into a vibrant urban corridor	Design and develop the stretch of South Capitol Street in D.C. between the U.S. Capitol and the Anacostia River into an urban boulevard that can accommodate new federal office space and a mix of uses that further serve the operations of the federal government, the city, and the surrounding neighborhoods.
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE; FEDERAL WORKPLACE; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT	Anacostia Waterfront Initiative (AWI) implementation	Develop public and private properties along the Anacostia River for park- and water-related use, and develop nearby areas with federal and non-federal facilities as proposed in AWI.
TRANSPORTATION	Remove/relocate the SW/SE Freeway	Study the removal and/or relocation of portions of the Southwest/Southeast Freeway in D.C. and replace lost capacity via the surface street grid.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare base maps showing topography, buildings, and forest cover. • Identify known and anticipated views (e.g., making use of past studies by NCPC, NPS). • Field-test views, in winter and summer. • Prepare maps and narrative describing significant views and existing or potential obstructions, with recommendations for actions to protect or enhance views. 	NCPC, NPS, other federal agencies, city and county planning and preservation offices	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form task force. • Study past cases of varying interpretations or other potential conflicts, and develop consensus on appropriate future handling of such cases. 	DCOZ, DCRA, DCOP, NCPC, CFA, AOC, NPS, GSA	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document the planning issues associated with the current location of the railroad facilities in the monumental core of the city. • Form a coalition of partners to evaluate alternative alignments. • Conduct existing conditions assessment. 	NCPC, NPS, AOC, GSA, FEMA, DHS, DDOT, USDOT	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a South Capitol Street design and development plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street improvement plan • Design guidelines • Concept design drawings • Construction phasing and cost estimates 	NCPC, NPS, GSA, USDOT, DCOP, DDOT	Long-range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify specific AWI components requiring federal involvement; prioritize these items and identify responsible implementation agencies; assist agencies in obtaining authorization and funding. 	NCPC, NPS, GSA, DOD/Navy, Army Corps of Engineers, D.C. government, and other AWI partners	Long-range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct traffic studies to gauge current demand for the freeway and impact to the regional transportation system. • Conduct feasibility study to remove freeway and identify urban design opportunities. 	NCPC, DDOT, DCOP, FHWA, GSA	Long-range

Operational Efficiency of the Federal Government

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
FOREIGN MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	Revise District of Columbia zoning regulations	Background information prepared for the Foreign Missions and International Organizations Element reinterpreted the Foreign Missions Act of 1982, which established the procedures and criteria governing the location of foreign missions in the District of Columbia. The criteria are codified through the zoning regulations of the District, and the reinterpretation of the Act consequently means that the zoning regulations will require revisions.
FOREIGN MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	Revise Department of State Real Property Manual	Last updated in 1987, the Foreign Missions and International Organizations Real Property Manual was prepared jointly by the Department of State, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the District of Columbia government as a guide for foreign missions and others interested or involved in the chancery development process. This manual describes the step-by-step process and procedures for a foreign mission, and under certain circumstances an international organization, to acquire, locate, relocate, replace, expand, and improve embassies, chanceries, and office space in the District of Columbia. The process is based on the Foreign Missions Act and other federal and District of Columbia laws and regulations. The manual requires revision to reflect recommended changes in the Diplomatic District (as implemented by zoning text and map amendments).
FOREIGN MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	Identify foreign missions centers sites	Identify potential specific sites for the development of one or more new foreign missions centers. General development areas have already been identified in Comprehensive Plan policies.
FEDERAL WORKPLACE	Key federal indicators assessment	Report on economic and demographic indicators related to the federal presence in the National Capital Region.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with the District of Columbia government, prepare zoning revisions for the future location of foreign missions in the District of Columbia. Zoning text revisions are requested to facilitate the siting and expansion of foreign missions in the District of Columbia. All zoning text and map revisions require adoption by the Zoning Commission. 	DCOZ (lead), DCOP, NCPC, DOS	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In conjunction with the Department of State and the District of Columbia government, revise and update the Real Property Manual, incorporating the zoning text and map amendments reflected in the Comprehensive Plan. Develop a process to assist foreign missions finding suitable locations. 	DOS (lead), NCPC, DCOP, DCOZ	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze specific sites, identify development scenarios and strategies, develop cost estimates, and identify funding sources, including partnerships with other public agencies and the possibility of public/private partnering. Draft legislation for a new Foreign Missions Center Act, as appropriate. 	NCPC (lead), DOS, DCOP	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct survey and compile data on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal agency demographics, e.g., types of jobs held by federal employees. Spending patterns of federal agencies and employees. Induced economic activity due to federal presence. Federal employee commuting patterns. Develop and publish report of findings. 	NCPC (lead), federal agencies	Short-term

Operational Efficiency of the Federal Government *continued*

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
FEDERAL WORKPLACE	Workforce housing initiative	Develop a workforce housing program designed to aid federal agencies in the National Capital Region; improve air quality and traffic congestion; decrease regional energy consumption; address housing costs that are rising faster than incomes of the federal civilian workforce; and address housing shortages in the vicinity of some federal installations.
VISITORS	Visitor center sites	Identify the viability of potential sites for one or more new visitors centers, and locations for smaller information kiosks. Determine where centers can be located that can contribute to a more informative, interesting, educational, comfortable, and convenient visit, and determine if, outside the monumental core, these facilities can further educate the visitor about visitor activities that can be found throughout the District and region.
FEDERAL WORKPLACE; PRESERVATION AND HISTORIC FEATURES	Federal historic structures and properties	Establish and maintain a central resource for the collection and analysis of federal historic structures and properties.
ALL ELEMENTS	Project submission guidelines	Re-engineer and streamline NCPC's project submission process to ensure its review is consistently applied, efficient, and responsive to the needs of federal agencies.
TRANSPORTATION; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT	TMP submission guidelines	Develop new guidelines for Transportation Management Plan submissions by federal agencies to encourage alternative means of commuting to minimize impact of federal employees driving alone during periods of congestion.
FEDERAL WORKPLACE	Federal procurement activities	Monitor and report on the magnitude of federal procurement and its changing patterns across jurisdictions and among federal agencies to augment the importance of the federal job base to the NCR's economy through measures of the federal government's direct support of job and income in the private sector. Work with other federal agencies and local, state, and regional agencies to increase competitive positions within the federal market of goods and services to ensure that this market supports efficiencies within federal operations.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a federal employees housing survey to identify and analyze issues that affect federal employees' housing choices. Identify stakeholders and build partnerships to address federal employees' housing needs. Identify and evaluate existing federal, state, and local programs for their application to the federal government. Develop, implement, and evaluate a federal employees workforce housing pilot program. 	NCPC (lead), federal and local government agencies, and non-governmental organizations	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze specific sites; identify development scenarios and strategies; develop cost estimates; and identify funding sources, including partnerships with other public agencies and the possibility of public/private partnering. Determine how both large, comprehensive visitor orientation centers and small kiosks can be developed to provide essential information to visitors. 	NCPC (lead), NPS, Smithsonian, DCOP, tour industry stakeholders	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile information from agency Historic Structure Reports and similar documents on their historic properties. 	NCPC (lead); federal agencies	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and revise current submission guidelines. Develop electronic submissions form in support of E-gov. Review federal leasing process with GSA and negotiate an appropriate and constructive role for NCPC. 	NCPC	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review TMP submissions. Review Commission actions on TMPs. Interview NCPC Project Review staff and federal agency representatives. Draft specific content requirements. 	NCPC, MWCOG, federal agencies	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and publicly report on federal procurement activities in the NCR. Meet with regional stakeholders in federal procurement activities (federal agencies; regional, state, and local economic/business development organizations) and develop policy actions and strategies (federal and other). 	NCPC, regional Congressional representatives, OMB, SBA, BOT, MWCOG, state/district and local economic/business development organizations	Short-term

Operational Efficiency of the Federal Government *continued*

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
FEDERAL WORKPLACE; TRANSPORTATION	Central Employment Area (CEA) boundaries	Reexamine the CEA boundaries within the District of Columbia where existing federal facilities and high-density development contribute to the employment population, economic diversification, and mixed-use nature of the core and where higher-density mixed-land uses are encouraged for economic development within active planning initiative.

Transportation Mobility and Accessibility

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
TRANSPORTATION; FEDERAL WORKPLACE; VISITORS	Downtown Circulator	Design the Downtown Circulator service as a convenient supplement to the existing Metrorail and Metrobus system for federal and private-sector workers, residents, and visitors, throughout the monumental core and downtown D.C.
TRANSPORTATION; VISITORS	Tour bus operations and parking management	Design and construct a central tour bus parking facility to serve federal attractions near the National Mall.
TRANSPORTATION; FEDERAL WORKPLACE	Bicycle paths/lanes on federal installations	Construct bicycle travel lanes connecting the various buildings on federal installations and connecting to nearby off-installation bicycle paths, lanes, and trails, as well as nearby Metrorail stations to support bicycle commuting.
TRANSPORTATION	Metropolitan Branch Trail	Plan, design, and construct Metropolitan Branch bicycle trail. (Note: WMATA is currently constructing a segment of the trail as part of the New York Avenue Metrorail Station construction)
TRANSPORTATION; VISITORS	Water Taxi Study	Plan for future water taxi service.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research past Commission and District Council decisions on CEA boundary updates. • Identify existing federal facilities within the core area. • Research adopted land use plans and current planning initiatives in the core area and identify sites with existing and planned high-density development. • Develop proposed boundaries in conjunction with the update of the District Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. • Adopt and map new boundaries, update the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan with new boundaries. 	NCPC, other federal agencies, DCOP, DCOZ	Short-term

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select and procure vehicles. • Refine Phase 1 routes. • Identify funding partners and funds. 	NCPC, Downtown BID, DDOT, WMATA	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement improved tour bus operations management, parking infrastructure, and information systems. (Note: DDOT and Union Station Redevelopment Corporation are planning to expand tour bus parking in the near future.) 	DDOT (lead), NCPC, Downtown BID, DC Council	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study bicycle trail connections at federal campuses. 	NCPC, NIH, NPS, Montgomery County Planning Department, MNCPPC, WABA	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate efforts where decisions impact/benefit federal facilities. 	DDOT, WMATA, DCOP, NCPC	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop comprehensive picture of District-wide waterfront improvements. • Develop preliminary routes for water taxi use. 	NCPC, DDOT, DCOP, DOD	Short-term

Transportation Mobility and Accessibility continued

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
TRANSPORTATION	Kennedy Center Access Improvements Project	Design and construct improvements to pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and auto access to the Kennedy Center, including provision of a new public plaza spanning the freeway on the east side of the Center and improved access to the riverfront on the west.
TRANSPORTATION; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT	Metrorail system capacity improvements	Investigate strategies to increase Metrorail system capacity, including spreading the peak loads by adjusting federal employee commute times.
TRANSPORTATION; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT	Dulles corridor rapid transit project	Participate in planning for extension of the transit system to Tysons Corner and Dulles Airport, and beyond.

Stewardship of Natural Resources

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT	Parks and open space assessment and management	Establish and maintain a central database for collecting and analyzing data about parks and open space; establish partnerships to enhance and manage regional parks and open space resources.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan, design, and construct improvements. (Note: Project is being coordinated with ongoing Theodore Roosevelt Bridge Environmental Study) 	FHWA (lead), Kennedy Center, NCPC, DDOT, NPS, CFA, DCOP,	Long-range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize completed Metrorail survey to determine whether federal employee commute times have been recorded. Survey federal agencies about employee arrival/departure times. Determine which trains have excess capacity. Propose adjustments to allowable work hours. 	NCPC, WMATA, MWCOC, DDOT, FTA, GSA	Long-range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and participate in all phases of work. 	VDOT, VDRPT, FTA, WMATA, local jurisdictions	Long-range

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<p>In conjunction with other stakeholders, coordinate regional parks and open space data collection and analyses; and develop strategies to protect, develop, enhance and manage park and open space resources to meet all user needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create federal/local and public/private partnerships to protect, develop, enhance, and manage parks and open space. Work with stakeholders to develop a methodology for defining and assessing parks and open spaces. Develop an inventory of federal, state, local, and other parks and open space, considering both in the NCR and more detailed work within the District of Columbia. Maintain as a detailed GIS database. Produce two reports assessing needs and opportunities for parks and open space. One report will be prepared at the regional level, and the other report will be developed for the area within the historic "diamond." Include analyses of future needs for both federal and local interests, and identify strategies to coordinate and optimize federal and local resources. Sponsor a Green Infrastructure Symposium. Prepare a property acquisition, transfer, and management analysis. 	NCPC, NPS, DOD, USDA, GSA, other federal agencies, and local jurisdictions	Short-term

Stewardship of Natural Resources continued

Relevant Plan Elements	Projects/Programs	Description
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE; FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT	Greenway/greenbelt study	Pursue, in coordination and consultation with local jurisdictions, the protection or acquisition of a connected outer ring of major open space at the periphery of the region that links new and existing federal and local properties.
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT; FEDERAL WORKPLACE	“Environmental Footprint” study of federal establishment	Study several representative federal facilities to determine their “environmental footprint”—the full range of environmental impacts caused by the federal activity. (Sample categories include heating/cooling, materials consumption, and commuting.) The data will assist NCPC and agencies in identifying significant impacts with the most potential for improvement, and in refining policies and programs to reduce these impacts.
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE	Fort Circle Parks System	Enhance the Fort Circle Parks system in accordance with the current NPS General Management Plan (in progress), which proposes several alternatives. This system was proposed in the McMillan Plan as a connected ring of parks and parkways incorporating Civil War fort sites; and was later refined and partially implemented. Current proposals include adding trails and emphasizing several key fort locations.
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE	Georgetown Waterfront Park, design and construction	Develop the public park linking the Potomac Palisades with Rock Creek Parkway. The park has been planned for several decades, and has been partially implemented.
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE	Blue Trail Study	Study potential for increased non-motorized recreational boating usage of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.

Implementation Strategies	Action Partners	Timeframe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine desired attributes, location, and extent of greenbelt. • Identify existing components and potential additional components of greenbelt, with assessment of their condition and need for protection or enhancement. • Identify strategies and mechanisms for protecting additional areas, and for increasing the usefulness of the greenbelt for recreation, wildlife, and environmental protection. 	NCPC, USDA, DOD, and DOI, local jurisdictions	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select federal agencies. • Identify categories of impact. • Evaluate magnitude of these impacts. • Identify potential reductions in resources consumption. 	NCPC, federal agencies with representative facilities, EPA, Census Bureau, MWCOG, local jurisdictions	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with NPS on action items identified in its General Management Plan. 	NPS, NCPC, DDOT, DCOP/Historic Preservation Office; DCDPR (can extend to include nearby forts in Arlington, Fairfax, and Montgomery Counties)	Long-range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain needed approvals for revised design concept (currently underway). • Develop detailed designs for components of park; seek needed approvals; and complete construction. 	NCPC, CFA, NPS, community groups	Short-term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess existing infrastructure for boating (docks, boathouses), and identify potential for further facilities. • Coordinate concepts with riverfront proposals from AWI, Potomac Heritage Trail, and plans for smaller areas (e.g., Georgetown Waterfront Park). • Determine specific projects and priorities, and work with relevant agencies or property owners to implement these improvements. 	NCPC, NPS, DOD, DCOP, other local agencies, and property owners	Long-range

Acronyms

The Action Plan Matrix utilizes the following acronyms:

AOC	Architect of the Capitol
BID	Business Improvement District
BOT	Washington Board of Trade
CFA	Commission of Fine Arts
DCDPR	D.C. Department of Parks and Recreation
DCOP	D.C. Office of Planning
DCOZ	D.C. Office of Zoning
DCRA	D.C. Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
DDOT	D.C. Department of Transportation
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DOD	Department of Defense
DOI	Department of the Interior
DOS	Department of State
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Administration
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
GSA	General Services Administration
MNCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MWCOG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
NCPC	National Capital Planning Commission
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NPS	National Park Service
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
SBA	Small Business Administration
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
VDRPT	Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation
WMATA	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

.....ComprehensivePlan *for the National Capital*

Definitions

Definitions

Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements

The following terms used in this document shall be construed to have the following meanings, unless a specific context denotes a different meaning:

Active Recreation: Those leisure pursuits requiring moderate to high physical exertion (e.g., hiking, bicycling, skating, and ball playing).

Alternative Fuel Bus: A bus that operates using a fuel other than diesel, such as natural gas or electric batteries.

Alternative Work Schedule: A schedule that varies from the standard 8-hour day/ 40-hour workweek.

Antenna Task Force: A body comprised of NCPC Commission members and federal and local government officials, established in 1994 to explore visual impact and other issues associated with the installation of antennas in the National Capital Region.

Antennas and Towers: Structures and devices that are used for the transmission of electronic, magnetic, or radiowave communication.

Brownfield: Abandoned, idle, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

Bus Rapid Transit: A transit system that employs express buses using dedicated rights-of-way and passenger stations, allowing it to function in a similar manner to a fixed railway transit system.

Busway: A dedicated right-of-way exclusively for bus travel.

Capper-Cramton Act: Act of May 29, 1930, (46 Stat. 482), as amended, which provides “for the acquisition, establishment, and development of the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac from Mount Vernon and Fort Washington to the Great Falls, and to provide for the acquisition of lands in the District of Columbia and the States of Maryland and Virginia requisite to the comprehensive park, parkway, and playground system of the National Capital.”

Carpool: A group of two to five persons sharing the use of a vehicle for commuter travel.

Central Employment Area or CEA: An area in the District of Columbia, generally bounded on the north by Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Ninth Street, NW, N Street, NW, Seventh Street, NW, H Street, NW and NE, North Capitol Street, and Florida Avenue, NE; on the east by Fourth Street, NE, M Street, NE; Third Street, NE, K Street, NE, Second Street, NE, and C Street, NE, Constitution Avenue, First Street, NE, Maryland Avenue, NE, Second Street, SE, C Street, SE, New Jersey Avenue, SE, D Street, SE, South Capitol Street, E Street, SE, Southwest Freeway, M Street, SE, and 11th Street, SE; on the south by the Anacostia Freeway, Sterling Avenue, SE, South Capitol Street, Southwest Freeway, 14th Street, SW, Constitution Avenue, NW; and on the west by the Expressway to 23rd Street, NW, north along Virginia Avenue, NW, east along the northern lot line of 2121 Virginia Avenue, NW, to the eastern lot line of 2121 Virginia Avenue, NW, to E Street, NW, east along E Street, NW, to 21st Street, NW north along 21st Street, NW, to the northern edge of the rear lot line of the American Red Cross Building on Lot 834 in Square 104, east along the rear lot line of the American Red Cross Building to 20th Street, NW, south along 20th Street, NW, to the northern edge of the rear lot line of the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) Building on Lot 835 in Square 122, east along the rear lot line of the AGC Building to 19th Street, NW, north along 19th Street, NW, to F Street, west on F Street, NW, to 20th Street, NW, north along Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, to 22nd Street, NW, north along 22nd Street, NW, to K Street, NW, east along K Street, NW, to 21st Street, NW, to M Street, NW, and New Hampshire Avenue, NW. (Refer to CEA Map, Federal Workplace Element, p. 42)

Chancery: The principal offices of a foreign mission used for diplomatic and related purposes and annexes to such offices (including ancillary offices and support facilities), including the site and any building or buildings on such site which is used for such purposes.

Circulator: A transit vehicle or system that utilizes fixed routes to serve multiple destinations.

Combined Chancery/Embassy: The site and any building or buildings thereon containing both the chancery and the embassy of a foreign mission.

Commemorative Works Act (CWA): The 1986 Commemorative Works Act provides guidance on the location and design of new memorials and monuments. The Act requires that Congress authorize all memorials on lands administered by NPS or GSA, and that NCPC, CFA, and either the Secretary of the Interior, in the case of parklands, or the Administrator of General Services, in the case of GSA-administered land, approve memorial sites and designs. CWA designated Area I and Area II for locating memorials, and CWA amendments enacted in 2003 created the Reserve. (See map on p. 177 of the Visitors Element.)

Compressed Work Schedule: A schedule that allows employees to compress an 80-hour pay period into fewer than 10 workdays by working more than eight hours during some workdays.

Downtown Circulator: A circulator system planned to serve downtown Washington, D.C. and the National Mall.

Embassy: The site and any building or buildings thereon containing the official residence of an ambassador or other chief of a diplomatic mission.

Executive Order: A legal proclamation or directive used by the President to exercise authority. Executive Orders are not required to be reviewed and approved by the Congress to be legally binding.

Federal Agency: Any department, agency, and other operating unit of the federal government.

Federal Civilian Employment: Those paid persons, full or part time, who occupy federal positions.

Federal Facilities: Buildings, installations, structures, or land owned or leased by the federal government.

Federal Visitor Attraction: A memorial, museum, parkland, natural feature, or commemorative work—under the jurisdiction of the federal government—that is of important national historic, symbolic, cultural, or educational value to the general public.

Federally Leased Space: Space in buildings, and land incidental thereto, for which the federal government has a right of occupancy by virtue of having a leasehold interest.

Federally Owned Space: Space in buildings, and land incidental thereto, the title to which is vested, or which will become vested, pursuant to existing agreement, in the federal government.

Floodplain: The lowland and relatively flat area adjoining inland and coastal waters, including at a minimum, that area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

Foreign Mission: Any mission to or agency in the United States involving diplomatic, consular, or other governmental activities of (1) a foreign government or (2) an organization (other than an international organization) representing a territory or political entity which has been granted diplomatic or other official privileges and immunities under the laws of the United States, or which engages in some aspect of the conduct of the international affairs of such territory or political entity, including any real property of such a mission and including the personnel of such a mission.

Fort Circle Parks: A major component of the park system of the District of Columbia recommended by the McMillan Plan and acquired by NCPC. Now managed by NPS, this ring of Civil War defenses are interconnected by a ribbon of parks that protect scenic hills and landscaped and natural area corridors that circle the District of Columbia.

GIS: Acronym for Geographic Information System, a computer system that stores and links non-graphic attributes or geographically referenced data with graphic map features to allow a wide range of information processing and display operations, as well as map production, analysis, and modeling.

Green Setting: The park and park-like character of the city and its environs that is due to the presence of trees and abundant landscaping threaded through built-up urban areas, or bordering the shorelines of its rivers and streams.

Hazardous Waste (HAZMAT): Discarded solid, liquid, or air-borne waste material exhibiting traits that have been found to have a harmful impact on human health and the natural environment.

Headway: A measure of the frequency of vehicle arrivals in a transit system, expressed as the amount of time between arriving vehicles at a particular station or stop.

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV): A vehicle with multiple passengers; the minimum number of required passengers is defined by local or regional regulations.

Historic District of Columbia Boundaries: The original boundaries of the District of Columbia; the diamond-shaped area that forms the current borders of the District of Columbia, Arlington County, and a portion of the city of Alexandria marked by boundary stones at one-mile intervals.

Intelligent Vehicle Highway System (IVHS): An information and routing system that uses satellite, electronic, and radio communications technologies both onboard private vehicles and embedded within a regional highway network to manage traffic control and incident avoidance and response; often tied to a central regional control center.

International Organizations: (1) A public international organization designated as such pursuant to the International Organization Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288-288f(2)) or a public international organization created pursuant to treaty or other international agreement as an instrument through or by which two or more foreign governments engage in some aspect of their conduct of international affairs; and (2) an official mission (other than a United States mission) to such a public international organization, including any real property of such an organization or mission and including the personnel of such an organization or mission.

L'Enfant City: The area laid out in 1791 by Pierre L'Enfant and adjacent areas laid out by the McMillan Commission in 1901, bordered by Rock Creek Park on the west, Florida Avenue on the north, Florida Avenue extended on the northeast, the Anacostia River on the east and southeast, and the Potomac River on the southwest.

L'Enfant Plan: The body of designs and plans for the original City of Washington, which were promulgated by President George Washington and recognized by Congress as the general work of Pierre Charles L'Enfant, Andrew Ellicott and Benjamin Banneker, notably as subsequently laid out by the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia government according to the "King Plats of the City of Washington in the District of Columbia, 1803."

Light Rail: A transit system consisting of surface running trains which run either in dedicated rights-of-way or through shared use of an urban street grid. Train cars are lighter in weight than those used for subway or long-distance travel.

Local Agencies: Operating units of non-federal levels of government, including regional, state, county, city, and the District of Columbia, that have authority over lands within the National Capital Region.

Magnetic Levitation Train: A high-speed train that is levitated above a guide way and propelled using magnets that are electrically powered. Commonly known as “Maglev.”

Mall: That section of the monumental core bounded by Constitution Avenue on the north, Independence Avenue on the south, First Street, NW/SW, on the east, and Fourteenth Street, NW/SW, on the west. (National Park Service Reservations #3, 3A, 3B, 4, 5, 6). See also, “Mall Complex.”

Mall Complex: Popularly referred to as “the Mall,” a portion of the monumental core east of the Potomac River, consisting of the Capitol Grounds; “The Mall,” as defined above; the Washington Monument grounds; the Ellipse; West Potomac Park; and the Jefferson Memorial grounds.

MARC: Maryland Rail Commuter service, operating between Union Station and various Maryland and West Virginia locations.

McMillan Plan: The body of plans for the systematic improvement and extension of parks and public buildings sponsored by Senator James McMillan on behalf of the U.S. Senate in 1901 and set forth in “Report of the Park Commission” (Senate Document No. 166), 1902, as subsequently realized under guidance of the Architect of the Capitol, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Metrochek: A program of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority that allows employers to provide tax-free transit benefits to employees; Metrocheks are exchanged for transit fare cards.

Monumental Core: The general area encompassing the Capitol grounds, the Mall, the Washington Monument grounds, the White House grounds, the Ellipse, West Potomac Park, East Potomac Park, the Southwest Federal Center, the Federal Triangle area, President’s Park, the Northwest Rectangle, Arlington Cemetery and the Pentagon area, Fort Myer and Henderson Hall.

National Capital: The District of Columbia and territory owned by the United States within the National Capital Region outside the District of Columbia.

National Capital Region, or Region: The District of Columbia; Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties in Maryland; Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties in Virginia; and all cities now or hereafter existing in Maryland or Virginia within the geographic area bounded by the outer boundaries of the combined area of said counties. This definition is set in the National Capital Planning Act of 1952.

NCPC’s Guidelines and Submission Requirements for Antennas on Federal Property in the National Capital Region: Guidelines developed by the National Capital Planning Commission to be used by federal agencies in the National Capital Region in the preparation and submission of plans for antenna installations.

Parking Ratio: The measure of the number of parking spaces provided for a given number of employees.

Passive Recreation: Quiet leisure pursuits with minimal physical exertion, such as sitting, reading, fishing, and picnicking.

Reserve: A zone considered the commemorative core of the nation's capital and a completed urban design, within which no new memorial sites should be allowed, as recommended by the Joint Task Force on Memorials and adopted by NCPG, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission. The Reserve encompasses the central cross axes of the National Mall formed by the U.S. Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, the White House, the Washington Monument, and the Jefferson Memorial. (See map on p. 177 of the Visitors Element.)

Shuttle: A transit vehicle or system that follows a fixed route between two destinations.

Single-Occupant Vehicle (SOV): A vehicle occupied by one person only.

Telework/Telecommuting: A program that allows employees to perform some of the duties of their job from home or from a satellite work center near their home.

Transit-Oriented Development: Development that surrounds a transit station and that is characterized by compact and dense development patterns, a mix of uses, short walking distances between uses, and excellent walking conditions.

Transit Station-to-Workplace Shuttle: A shuttle that provides service between a work place and the nearest transit station.

Transportation Demand Management: The practice of managing the demand for transportation services so that it does not result in the construction of new transportation infrastructure.

Transportation Management Plan: A plan to manage transportation demand, particularly demand for the use of single-occupant vehicles and the roadways and parking spaces needed to serve them.

Vanpool: A group of six or more persons sharing the use of a vehicle for commuter travel.

Variable Work Schedule: A work schedule that varies from the normal work schedule utilized by an employer.

VRE: Virginia Railway Express commuter rail service.

Water Taxi: A water vessel that provides point-to-point commuter service, either on demand or following a regular schedule. Water taxis could also be used by visitors as a means to access visitor attractions.

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